

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A media distribution and playback system ~~for providing media playback, the system~~ comprising:
 - one or more modules that provide a server-side subsystem, the one or more modules being configured to access information for locating at least portions of a plurality of media resources over the network;
 - a terminal-side subsystem of the system that enables a user to specify a search module that signals a user-query that results in the one or more modules generating or identifying to a first network site to receive a search result, wherein the search result, and in response to receiving the search result, identifies two or more media resources; a first link contained in the search result that is selectable to open media files; and
 - wherein the terminal-side subsystem of the system includes a network browsing component and a media playback component, the media playback component being configured to playback a first media resource of the plurality of media resources, and to playback a second media resource of the plurality of media resources automatically and continuously after the first media resource, wherein the first and second media resources are identified in the search result and comprise a set of media resources that are played back, and wherein the media playback component is controllable with one or more commands from the service-side subsystem to cause playback of at least one of the first or second media resources;

~~a media player coupled to the search module to automatically play back streaming media contained in a first media file of the first link contained in the search result and~~
wherein the network browsing component is at least partially controlled by the one or more modules to display network content.

2. CANCELED

3. CANCELED

4. CANCELED

5. (Currently Amended) The media playback system of claim 1, further comprising a user-interface that is provided with the terminal-side subsystem of the system, the user-interface being configured to receive the user-query, and to signal-communicate a criteria that is based on the user-query, to the search module.

6. CANCELED

7. (Currently Amended) The media playback system of claim ~~6~~1, wherein the ~~search module signals the user query to the first network site including user-query identifies one or more search fields~~criteria, the one or more search fields the one or more search criteria being selected from the a group of search fields-criteria consisting of an artist name, a media title, a genre of media, or a type of media file.

8. CANCELED

9. CANCELED

10. CANCELED

11. CANCELED

12. (Currently Amended) A media distribution and playback system ~~operated on a terminal coupled to a network, the media playback system comprising:~~

one or more modules that provide a server-side subsystem of the system at a network site, the one or more modules being configured to use information for locating any of a plurality of media resources that reside at least in part at the network site;

a terminal-side subsystem of the system that enables a user to specify a search module that signals a user-query to the plurality of network site of the server-side;

wherein the one or more modules use the information to identify a search result for the user-query, and communicate the search result to the media playback component;

sites to receive a plurality of search result wherein ts, and in response to receiving the plurality of search result, results, identifies the media playback component identifies a plurality of links from the search result that are selectable to locate open media files media resources, including one or more media resources that reside at least in part at the network site; and

a media ~~player~~playback coupled ~~component comprising at least a portion of the~~
terminal-side subsystem to the search module to that is configured to
automatically access and load the a media files resource of any selected link in
the search result, including of the one or more media resources that reside at
least in part on the network; of the plurality of links.

wherein the media playback component is controllable by at least one of the one or
more modules of the server-side subsystem in order to process any selected
link in the search result as part of a play-list that identifies multiple media
resources, so as to enable the media playback component to playback media
resources identified by the play-list, including the one or more media
resources that reside at least in part on the network site, continuously and
sequentially.

13. CANCELED

14. CANCELED

15. CANCELED

16. CANCELED

17. CANCELED

18. CANCELED

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~media playback~~ system of claim 12, wherein the ~~search~~
~~module signals the search results to a play list module, the play list module arranging play-~~

list provides -the plurality of multiple media resources as links from the search results that are arranged into a designated structured order, wherein each one or more of the plurality of links providing a network address for locates a corresponding media fileresource at the network site for continuous and sequential playback after playback of another media resource., the playlist module signaling the plurality of links to the media player in the designated order.

20. (Currently Amended) The media playback system of claim 12, wherein the terminal subsystem further comprising comprises a browsing component that includes a user-interface to receive the user-query.

21. (New) A media distribution and playback system comprising:
a terminal-side subsystem being provided on a terminal and comprising a media playback component and a network browsing component, wherein the terminal-side subsystem is configured to enable a user-input that results in a search operation being performed using a database that stores information about a plurality of media resources, so that a search result is identifiable from the user-input;
the terminal-side subsystem being configured to receive one or more commands communicated from a server-side subsystem of the system over a network;
wherein the media playback component is at least partially and directly controllable by at least one of the commands that is received from the server-side portion over the network, the media playback component using the at least one of the commands to continuously playback two or more media resources that are at least partially accessible over the network, including at least one media resource identified from the search result;
wherein the network browsing component is at least partially controllable by at least one of the terminal-side subsystem or at least one of the one or more commands, in order to display information associated with at least one media resource identified in the search result.

22. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the network browsing component is operable to enable a user to interact with the system and to provide the user-input.
23. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the network browsing component is operable with the media playback component without requiring any user-input.
24. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the at least one media resource identified from the search result is directly streamed to the media playback component from the server-side portion of the system.
25. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein at least one of the two or more media resources that are continuously played back include an advertisement or a copyright notice.
26. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein at least one of the two or more media resources is played back automatically and in response to the user-input based that results in the search operation.
27. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein at least one of the two or more media resources that are continuously played back include an advertisement or a copyright notice.
28. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein at least one of the two or more media resources is played back from a result of a past search operation that was performed by a user using the system.
29. (New) The system of claim 21, further comprising a database that stores information for enabling the search operation to be performed to identify the search result.

30. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the database resides at least partially on the terminal so as to be part of the terminal-side subsystem.

31. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein a device on which the terminal-side subsystem is provided corresponds to anyone of a cellular device, a portable computer with non-cellular wireless communication capabilities, or a laptop or personal computer.

32. (New) A media distribution and playback system comprising:

a terminal-side subsystem comprising a media playback component, wherein the media playback component is configured to include one or more user-interface features to control a playback of a given media resource by the media playback component, wherein the user-interface features include at least a play control and a stop control, the media playback component being installed on a terminal of the terminal-side subsystem and communicative with a network;

a server-side subsystem comprising one or more modules, the one or more modules storing or having access to information to enable access of a plurality of media resources that are playable over the network;

wherein the server-side subsystem is configured to directly communicate to the media playback component over the network;

wherein the one or more modules of the server-side subsystem are configured to send, over the network, one or more commands to a terminal of the terminal-side subsystem;

wherein the one or more commands control the media playback component to play two or more of the plurality of media resources in an order designated by the server-side subsystem; and

wherein in response to a user interacting with one of the user-interface features, the media playback component is configured to send one or more commands from the terminal to the one or more modules of the server-side subsystem, the one or more commands from the terminal altering the one or more commands that are communicated from the server-side subsystem.

33. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the user-interface features further comprises a pause control.
34. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the user-interface features further comprises at least one of a fast-forward or skip control.
35. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the at least two or more the plurality of media resources are directly streamed to the media playback component from the server-side subsystem.
36. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein a device on which the terminal-side subsystem is provided corresponds to anyone of a cellular device, a portable computer with non-cellular wireless communication capabilities, or a laptop or personal computer.
37. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the network used by the system includes one or more of the Internet, an extranet, an intranet, a non-cellular wireless network, and a cellular network, and wherein the server-side subsystem is provided on a separate server.
38. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein a device on which the terminal-side subsystem is provided corresponds to anyone of a cellular device, a portable computer with non-cellular wireless communication capabilities, or a laptop or personal computer.
39. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the network used by the system includes one or more of the Internet, an extranet, an intranet, a non-cellular wireless network, and a cellular network, and wherein the server-side subsystem is provided on a separate server.